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09/888,582 - FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY**Specification Amendments (w/paragraph numbers in bold)**

[0030] Referring to Figs. 2 and 3, the frame assembly 12 includes an upper frame 24 pivotally connected to a lower frame 26. Preferably, a pair of hub assemblies 28,30 are used to connect upper and lower frames 24, 26. An intermediate frame 32 is pivotally connected to the upper frame 24 at bends 34, 36 (curved portions). These pivotal connections support intermediate frame 32 in its deployed position and permit the frame assembly 12 to fold substantially flat, as shown in Fig. 2.

[0034] The lower frame 26 preferably includes L-shaped left and right members 52, 54 having respective forward ends 56, 58 removably connected to second receptacles 60, 62 in any conventional manner. Preferably, second receptacles 60, 62 (Fig. 3) are integrally formed with second housings 64, 66 of the hub assemblies 28, 30. A pivot 68 (Fig. 4) connects the respective rearward ends 70, 72 of the left and right members 52,54. The pivot 68 permits folding of the lower frame 26 so that the forward ends 56, 58 are adjacent one another. Figs. 5 and 6 illustrate frame 26 of the preferred embodiment in a deployed and folded position. When folded, ends 56, 58 extend inwardly of their respective ends 70, 72 and may be positioned adjacent to each other, as shown in Fig. 5a,

[0040] Figs. 11 and 12 show enlarged views of the left bend 34 and the intermediate frame 32 in the use position (Fig. 11) and the folded position (Fig. 12). The left bend 34 is preferably a serpentine bend and includes a first section 102, a second section 104 and a third section 106. The ends 108, 110 of the intermediate frame 32 wrap around the upper frame 24 by forming an eyelet in intermediate frame 32, only the left end 108 is shown in Figs. 11 and 12. The bend 34 provides a section of frame which protrudes forwardly relative to the portion of frame extending above bend

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34. By providing a bend in upper frame 24, a support surface (e.g., section 104) for intermediate frame 32 may be provided when intermediate frame 32 is cantilevered from upper frame 24 (Fig. 911). Additionally, outwardly extending bend 342 allows intermediate frame 32 to be rotated about bend 34 at section 104 so that intermediate ~~framesection 324~~ may be laid substantially flat against upper frame 24 (see Figs. 120 and 2). Preferably, the lower end of ~~left end~~ bend 40 of upper frame 24 extends outwardly below bend 34. This extension prevents intermediate ~~framesection 32~~ from slipping off of bend 34. Upper frame 24 may also be constructed as a three piece frame. For example, the generally U-shaped seat back portion 38 may be removable from bends 34, 36 just above section 106 (a similar connection could be provided at bend 36) and securable to bend 34 by a pin or other type of fastener. This alternative embodiment could be employed if it is desirable to further reduce the packaging size of bouncer seat 10. Other methods of pivotally attaching the intermediate frame 32 to the upper frame 24 are possible, such as a pin connection between upper frame 24 and intermediate frame 32, a housing assembly secured to upper frame 24 which rotatably receives intermediate frame 32. Intermediate frame 32 can also include a similarly shaped eyelet which is positioned to rest against a bump formed in upper frame 24 to support intermediate frame 32 as a cantilever.

[0041] In the preferred embodiment, the left end 108 of the intermediate frame 32 contacts the top of the first section 102 and the bottom of the second section 104 when the intermediate frame 32 is in the use position (see Fig. 11). This contact provides sufficient support for the intermediate frame 32 to extend as a cantilever from the upper frame 24. The left end 108 of the intermediate frame 32 lies along the third section 106 when the intermediate frame 32 is in the folded position (see Fig. 12). As mentioned above, the offset provided by the bends 34, 36 permits the intermediate frame 32

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and lower frame 26 to lie substantially flat with respect to the upper frame 24 when the frame assembly 12 is folded (see, e.g., Fig. 2). While the preferred embodiment discloses a serpentine bend, other shapes can be used to provide the same or similar function (for example, a housing, as mentioned above). The right bend 36 is identical in shape and function to the left bend 34 and cooperates with the right end 110 of the intermediate frame 32.

[0042] The left and right members 52,54 can be L-shaped with bends 112, 114 formed between the long and short legs. The bends 112, 114 create an angled clearance between the support surface and the lower frame 26 (see, e.g., Fig. 32). This clearance is provided so that lower frame 26 will flex during use, thereby providing a bouncing motion. This frame design is preferred because it simplifies the design of the hub assemblies 28,30 (bouncing motion need not be provided by hub assemblies 28, 30).

Claim Amendments

1. (Currently Amended) A frame assembly for a child bouncer seat adapted for use on a supporting surface, the frame assembly including a disassembled configuration and an assembled configuration, comprising:

an upper frame including left and right ends;

a left and right hub ~~assembly~~ assemblies, each of the hub assemblies ~~includes~~ including a first receptacle coupled to a respective one of the left and right ends of the upper frame in the assembled configuration, and a second receptacle;

a lower frame for supporting the upper frame in the assembled configuration, the lower frame including left and right members each having a respective forward end, ~~and a rearward ends~~

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end, and a supporting surface contacting portion, wherein the forward ends of the left and right members are connected to the second receptacles when the frame assembly is of the hub assemblies in the assembled configuration and wherein at least one of the forward ends is disconnected from a respective second receptacle when the frame assembly is in the disassembled configuration; and

a pivot connecting the rearward ends of the left and right members, wherein when the frame assembly is in the disassembled configuration, at least one of the left and right members of the lower frame are is adapted to be rotated about the pivot so as to allow the at least one of the left and right members to be positioned between a first and second angular positions relative to the other of the left and right members, and wherein when the frame assembly is in the assembled configuration, the forward ends of the left and right members being connected to the second receptacles of the hub assemblies and prevents the left and right members are prevented from rotating about the pivot.

2. (Original) The frame assembly of claim 1 wherein the left and right members are L-shaped.

3. (Currently Amended) The frame assembly of claim 2, wherein each of the left and right L-shaped members includes a relatively short leg extending from left to right and right to left, respectively; and a relatively long leg, the long leg extending forwardly from the respective short leg, and each of the short legs have a first end proximate the long leg and a second end, wherein the pivot couples connects the left L-shaped member to the right L-shaped member through the second ends of proximate the relatively short legs.

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4. (Currently Amended) The frame assembly of claim 3, wherein the pivot is disposed approximately equidistant from the ~~left and right~~ relatively long legs of the left L-shaped member and the right L-shaped member.
5. (Currently Amended) The frame assembly of claim 4, wherein the pivot is a fastener received within a pair of cooperating holes formed in the relatively short legs of the left L-shaped member and the right L-shaped member ~~leg second ends.~~
6. (Currently Amended) The frame assembly of claim 1, ~~the frame assembly being adapted for use on a support surface,~~ wherein the hub assemblies are rigid relative to the lower frame, and wherein ~~a portion~~ portions of the left and right members ~~is~~ are elevated from the ~~support~~ supporting surface so as to be resiliently displaceable relative to the hub assemblies, the elevated ~~portion~~ portions defining a flexural member providing bouncing motion ~~when to~~ the frame assembly ~~is~~ in the assembled configuration.
7. (Currently Amended) The frame assembly of claim 1, wherein the first angular position is formed ~~when by~~ the ~~left and right~~ forward ends of the left and right members ~~are being~~ spaced from each other and the second angular position is formed ~~when by~~ the ~~left and right~~ forward ends of the left and right members ~~are being~~ positioned approximately adjacent each other.
8. (Currently Amended) The frame assembly of claim 1 wherein the lower frame ~~pivots is~~ moveable between at least one unfolded position in which the lower frame is angularly displaced

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from the upper frame and a folded position in which the lower frame lies substantially co-planar with the upper frame.

9. (Currently Amended) The frame assembly of claim 8 ~~wherein the lower frame being angularly displaced from the upper frame corresponds to a rotational displacement about a first axis, wherein the left and right hub assembly assemblies are positionable between at least one first orientation and a second orientation, the at least one first orientation corresponding to the first receptacles of the hubs being rotationally offset from the second receptacles of the hub assemblies and, the rotational offset being measured relative to the first axis, wherein when the lower frame is in the at least one unfolded position, the left and right hub assemblies are in the at least one first orientation and wherein, when the lower frame is in the folded position the left and right hub assemblies are in the second orientation corresponding to the first receptacles of the hubs being rotationally parallel to the second receptacles of the hub assemblies.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The frame assembly of claims 6 wherein the left and right hub assemblies are disposed adjacent the ~~support~~-supporting surface.

11. (Original) The frame assembly of claim 1 further comprising an intermediate frame coupled to the upper frame.

12. (Original) The frame assembly of claim 11 wherein the intermediate frame is pivotable between a first position adjacent the upper frame and a second position angularly spaced from the upper frame.

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13. (Currently Amended) The frame assembly of claim 1 wherein each of the hubs assemblies includes a first housing and a second housing;

the first housing including a first gear surface, a button, and the first receptacle;

the second housing including a second gear surface and the second receptacle;

the first and second gear surfaces ~~are being~~ circular in shape and ~~include including~~ radially extending teeth; and

a gear having teeth engageable with each of the first and second gear surfaces; and wherein the button is adapted to engages- the gear.

14. (Original) The frame assembly of claim 13 wherein the button and the gear are displaceable relative to the first and second housings to disengage the gear from at least one of the first and second gear surfaces so that the first housing is rotatable relative to the second housing.

15. (Currently Amended) The frame assembly of claim 1 wherein the upper frame ~~describes is~~ a seat support adapted to receive a seating surface; and

the left and right ends of the upper frame extend forwardly and outwardly from the seating ~~area-surface to the hub assemblies~~ and the left and right members of the lower frame extend rearwardly and inwardly from the ~~second receptacles~~ hub assemblies.

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16. (Currently Amended) A child seat ~~comprises comprising:~~

a first frame member including a seat back portion, and left and right ends, each of the left and right ends including a curved portion ~~and a bend formed between the seat back portion and each of the left and right ends;~~

a second frame member having left and right portions, each of the left and right portions of the second frame member comprising a loop pivotally ~~pivotably coupled to about the curved portions of the first frame member by engagement with the bends;~~ and

wherein the second frame member is rotatable about the ~~bends~~ curved portions between a deployed position in which the second frame member is angularly spaced from the first frame member so as to provide a seat support, and a folded position in which the second frame member is substantially co-planar with the first frame member.

17. (Currently Amended) The child seat of claim 16 wherein the ~~bends~~ curved portions are serpentine ~~bends in shape~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The child seat of claim 16 wherein the first frame member is a unitary ~~first frame member~~.

19. (Currently Amended) The child seat of claim 16 wherein the second frame member is a unitary member ~~formed by a single piece of wire form material and the first frame is formed by a single piece of wire form material.~~

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20. (Currently Amended) The child seat of claim 16 wherein the seat back portion defines a plane ~~substantially corresponding to a seating surface, and~~ wherein each of the ~~bends~~ curved portions is serpentine in shape and includes a first, second and third section, the second section extending forwardly from the plane of the seat back portion ~~plane~~ and being disposed between the first and third sections, and the first and third sections extending approximately parallel to the plane of the seat back portion ~~plane~~; and

wherein the second section and the first section of the curved portions supports the second frame member as a cantilever in the deployed position ~~and the second frame member is rotated about the second section when the second frame is positioned in the folded position.~~

21. (Currently Amended) The child seat of claim 20 ~~16~~, wherein the second frame member is rotated about the second section when the second frame member is positioned in the folded position ~~is engaged with the bends by eyelets formed at the second frame left and right portions.~~

22. (Currently Amended) The child seat of claim 16 ~~21~~, wherein the first and second frame members are formed from a wire form material ~~bends and the eyelets are formed from wire form material.~~

23. (Currently Amended) The child seat of claim 16 further including a ground engaging base coupled to the left and right ends of the first frame member.

24. (Currently Amended) The child seat of claim 23 wherein the ground engaging base includes left and right base portions and wherein the ground engaging base is pivotally coupled to the left

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and right ends of the first frame member by ~~a~~ left and right hub assemblies, each hub assembly having a first portion connected to a respective one of the left and right ends of the first frame member and a second portion connected to a respective one of the left and base right portions.

25. (Currently Amended) The child seat of claim 24 wherein the ground engaging base is displaceable relative to the seat back portion to position the ground engaging base substantially coplanar with the seat back portion when the second frame member is in the folded position.

26. (Original) The child seat of claim 16 wherein the child seat is a bouncer seat.

Claims 27-36 (Canceled)

37. (Currently Amended) The frame assembly of claim 1, wherein ~~when the frame assembly is in~~ the assembled configuration, the frame assembly occupies an assembled ~~maximum-width extent~~ defined by the distance between the hub assemblies; and

wherein ~~when the frame assembly is in~~ the disassembled configuration, the hub assemblies are disconnected from the upper frame ~~so that~~ and the lower frame assembly occupies a disassembled ~~maximum-width extent~~ defined by a distance between the lower ~~upper~~ frame left and right members~~ends~~, the disassembled ~~maximum-width extent~~ being less than the assembled ~~maximum-width extent~~.

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38. (Currently Amended) A child seat adapted for use on a supporting surface and having an assembled and disassembled configuration, the child seat comprising:

a seating portion including an upper frame having left and right sides spaced apart by a first distance;

left and right connector portions, each of which including a seat portion connector and a lower frame connector; and

a lower frame adapted to contact the supporting surface, the lower frame including left and right L-shaped members spaced apart by a first distance in the assembled configuration, each of the L-shaped members including a forwardly and outwardly extending forward frame portion defining a forward end, and a transverse rear frame portion defining a rearward end, wherein an obtuse angle is defined by the forward frame portion and the transverse rear frame portion, and a pivot connecting the left and right L-shaped members are connected by a lower frame connector proximate at their rearward ends, the upper frame being connected to the lower frame and allowing the forward ends to be positioned at one of a second and third distance from each other, wherein the first distance is greater than the third distance and the second distance is greater than the first distance; and

wherein when the child seat is in the assembled configuration, the left and right seat portion connectors are connected to the respective left and right sides, the left and right lower frame connectors are connected to the respective forward ends, the forward ends are positioned at the second distance from each other, and the child seat occupies a maximum first width dimension that is approximately equal to the second distance; and

wherein movement of when the child seat between the assembled configuration and is in the disassembled configuration is effected by moving, the left and right L-shaped members about the

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lower frame connector so that the left and right L-shaped members are spaced apart by a second distance, the second distance being less than the first distance~~seat portion connectors are disconnected from the respective left and right sides, the left and right lower frame connectors are disconnected from the respective forward ends, the forward ends are positioned at the third distance from each other, and the child seat occupies a maximum second width dimension that is approximately equal to the first distance.~~

39. (Currently Amended) The child seat frame assembly~~according to claim 38, wherein movement of the child seat between the disassembled configuration and the assembled configuration is effected by moving the left and right L-shaped members about the lower frame connector until the left and right L-shaped members are spaced apart by the first distance~~~~the lower frame further comprises a third maximum width extent when the frame assembly is in the disassembled configuration, the third maximum width extend being at most equal to the first distance and less than the second distance.~~

40. (Currently Amended) The child seat frame assembly~~according to claim 39, wherein the lower frame connector comprises a pivotal connection~~~~left and right members are L-shaped.~~

41. (Currently Amended) The child seat frame assembly~~according to claim 40~~~~1, wherein the pivotal connection is centrally disposed between the rearwardforward ends of the L-shaped members.~~

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42. (Currently Amended) The ~~child seat frame assembly~~ according to claim 41, wherein the pivotal connection comprises a pin passing through a hole formed in each of the ~~left and right~~ rearward ends of the L-shaped members.

43. (Currently Amended) The ~~child seat frame assembly~~ according to claim 38, wherein the upper frame is connected to the lower frame via hubs, the hubs adapted each of the left and right ~~connector portions further includes a hub for rotating the seating portion connector relative to the~~ lower frame ~~connector~~ so as to enable reduction in ~~the a~~ maximum height ~~dimension~~ of the child seat when configured in the disassembled configuration.

44. (Currently Amended) A method for assembly of a child's bouncer seat, comprising the steps of
providing a bouncer seat assembly, the assembly including an upper frame defining a maximum disassembled width ~~extent~~ of the seat assembly, left and right sides including rotatable hubs, a ground engaging, stabilization frame including a pair of L-shaped legs, each of the L-shaped legs including a forward leg portion and a rear leg portion, the rear leg portions being coupled to each other by a pivot at a first end thereof, and each of the rear leg portions being connected to the respective forward leg portion at a second end thereof;

connecting the left and right hubs to the upper frame;

deploying the ground engaging, stabilization frame including pivoting the rear leg portions about the pivot from a first stowed angle defined by the rear leg portions to a second angle defined by the rear leg portions, the second deployed angle being greater than the first stowed angle; and

connecting the forward leg portions to the left and right hubs so that the second ends are spaced apart by a distance greater than the maximum disassembled ~~width~~ distance.

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45. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 44, further comprising rotating the hubs to pivot the upper frame relative to the ground engaging, stabilization frame from a collapsed position to a deployed position.

46. (Currently Amended) The method ~~for assembly of a child's seat by a consumer~~ of claim 45, further comprising the step of providing an actuator on at least one of the hubs to permit rotation of the upper ~~seat~~ frame relative to the ground engaging, stabilization frame, wherein the step of rotating the hubs further includes the step of actuating the actuator to permit rotational motion between the upper frame and ground engaging, stabilization ~~lower~~ frame.

47. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 44, wherein the upper frame comprises a U-shaped upper frame.